



NEWS

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Patricia Fisher 202-208-5634

Janet L. Miller 202-208-5634

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE ANNOUNCES TRANSITIONS IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS LEADERSHIP

Fish and Wildlife Service Director Jamie Rappaport Clark recently announced transitions in the leadership of the Service's International Affairs Program. Through its Office of International Affairs, Office of Scientific Authority, and Office of Management Authority, this program is responsible for overseeing U.S. involvement in worldwide conservation efforts.

"I believe we have assembled the best possible team for bringing the Fish and Wildlife Service's international conservation efforts into the 21st Century," said Clark. "Their combined expertise will give a tremendous boost to conservation efforts both at home and abroad."

Marshall P. Jones, Jr. has served as the Assistant Director for International Affairs since December 1994 and was recently reappointed to this position. As assistant director, he is responsible for a staff of 65 biologists, international affairs specialists, and administrative personnel in the three offices, having a combined annual budget of \$9 million. He oversees U.S. participation in the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, and bilateral conservation programs with a number of countries in the Western Hemisphere, Africa, and Asia. Jones is also responsible for grant programs for foreign endangered species and represents the Service on the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Save the Tiger Fund Council. Jones began his career with the Service in 1975 as a biologist and technical writer. He has held several supervisory positions both in the Washington office and in the Service's Southeast Regional Office located in Atlanta.

Kenneth B. Stansell has been named Deputy Assistant Director for International Affairs. As deputy, Stansell will provide support for the assistant director in managing the ever-increasing complexity of resource issues and multi-national concerns involved in international wildlife conservation. Stansell's 24-year career includes field research, state wildlife conservation, and regional office experience. He came to the Fish and Wildlife Service in 1979 from the South Carolina Department of Wildlife and Marine Resources (now the Department of Natural Resources) where he developed the Nation's first state Section 6 endangered species program under the then-new Federal Endangered Species Act. He began his Service career in the Atlanta Regional Endangered Species Office.

*Office of Public Affairs
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240
Room 3447*

*(202) 208-5634
FAX (202) 219-2428*

Stansell came to Washington in 1986 to participate in the Interior Department's Manager Development Program, after which he was named deputy chief of the Division of Endangered Species and Habitat Conservation. In 1994, he became chief of the Service's Office of Management Authority, a position he held until being named deputy assistant director.

The new chief of the Office of Scientific Authority is **Dr. Susan S. Lieberman**. The Office of Scientific Authority has the lead for scientific assessments under CITES and other international laws and treaties, including evaluations of whether activities are detrimental to wild populations, assessments of the status of foreign species under the U.S. Endangered Species Act, and conservation evaluations of the impacts of international trade on plant and animal species.

Lieberman joined the Service in 1990 as CITES policy specialist in the Office of Management Authority and became chief of the CITES Operations Branch of OMA in 1994. She came to the Fish and Wildlife Service from the Humane Society of the United States where she was associate director for wildlife specializing in international wildlife trade issues.

Lieberman brings a strong conservation and science background to the Scientific Authority, including work outside the government on international wildlife trade issues; university teaching; and research in primate and desert tortoise ecology and evolution. Her Ph.D. research was in tropical ecology, focusing on amphibians and reptiles in Costa Rica.

Recently named chief of the Office of Management Authority, **Teiko Saito** returns to the Service after several years in the Interior Department's Office for Equal Opportunity, most recently serving as Assistant Director for Civil Rights Programs. The Office of Management Authority handles all aspects of U.S. implementation of CITES, including issuing or denying wildlife importation and exportation permits. As chief, Saito coordinates development of all U.S. positions and regulations regarding trade policy issues involving both wildlife and plants, including CITES, the African Elephant Conservation Act, Wild Bird Conservation Act, and Pelly Amendment.

Saito has held several positions in the Fish and Wildlife Service, including deputy chief of the Office for Equal Opportunity; chief of OMA's Branch of Permits; and special assistant to the Assistant Director for External Affairs with responsibility for budget development and execution, administration, and program planning and evaluation. She began her career with the Service in 1980 as the regional equal employment officer in the Anchorage, Alaska, office and, in 1983, came to the Washington headquarters as a program analyst in the Office of Endangered Species.

Herbert A. Raffaele is continuing as chief of the Office for International Affairs, a position he has held since 1994. Through this office, the Service has established wide-ranging programs in Russia, China, India, South Africa, and the Western Hemisphere. These initiatives include rhino and tiger conservation, the North American Free Trade Agreement, and Wildlife Without Borders, as well as development of the first wildlife conservation training institutes in India, Mexico, Central America, and South America. Raffaele began his Service career in 1983 in the Office of International Affairs as the branch chief for the Western Hemisphere Program. He remained in that position until his appointment as chief of international affairs. Prior to joining the Service, Raffaele spent 7 years in Puerto Rico, first as a natural resources specialist in the Bureau of Wildlife and then as the director of fish and wildlife planning in the Department of Natural Resources. He recently published the first fully illustrated field guide to the birds of the Caribbean, following up on his earlier book on birds of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

In recent years, the Fish and Wildlife Service's responsibilities for international wildlife conservation under a broad array of national laws and international treaties has substantially increased. In 1993, the various offices dealing with international issues were consolidated under the newly created office of Assistant Director for International Affairs. This step ensures a more coordinated effort to address the wide range of ongoing activities and provides for closer coordination among the Regional Offices on cross-border programs.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the principal Federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting, and enhancing fish and wildlife and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The Service's 94 million acres include 512 national wildlife refuges, 65 national fish hatcheries, 38 wetland management districts with waterfowl production areas, 78 ecological services field stations, and 50 wildlife coordination areas.

The agency enforces Federal wildlife laws, manages migratory bird populations, restores nationally significant fisheries, conserves and restores wildlife habitat such as wetlands, administers the Endangered Species Act, and helps foreign governments with their conservation efforts. It also oversees the Federal Aid program that distributes Federal excise taxes on fishing and hunting equipment to state wildlife agencies. This program is a cornerstone of the Nation's wildlife management efforts, funding fish and wildlife restoration, boating access, hunter education, shooting ranges, and related projects across America.